

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN APRIL 2007

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in April was 2.4 million metric tons (Mt), which was 3% lower than in March, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Cumulative production for January to April was slightly lower than in same period of 2006.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in April was 2.6 Mt, which was virtually the same as that of March, based on unrounded data. Reported use of phosphate rock in January to April was 3% higher than in same period of 2006. U.S. producer stocks were 2% lower than in March and 15% lower than in April 2006.

Imports of phosphate rock were estimated based on U.S. Census Bureau figures and export data from the Moroccan producer. Morocco supplies more than 99% of the phosphate rock imported into the United States; however, the U.S. Census Bureau suppresses much of the phosphate rock data from Morocco.

Estimated apparent consumption for 2007, based on annualized use and trade data, was 33 Mt, compared with 32.6 Mt in 2006.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks ²
2006:			
January-April	9,620	9,840	XX
April	2,570	2,570	6,540
May	3,000	2,540	7,000
June	2,590	2,510	7,260
July	2,540	2,590	6,600
August	2,800	2,660	6,750
September	2,470	2,460	6,750
October	2,530	2,950	6,210
November	2,060	2,070	6,210
December	2,470	2,570	6,120
January-December	30,100	30,200	XX
2007:			
January	2,340	2,590	5,880
February	2,200	2,320	5,750
March	2,510	2,590	5,680
April	2,450	2,590	5,540
Total	9,500	10,100	XX

XX Not applicable.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK¹

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value ²
2006:		
January-April	359	15,000
April	115	5,720
May	126	5,890
June	256	16,000
July	135	6,400
August	129	4,530
September	155	9,030
October	124	8,840
November	55	2,240
December	398	18,700
January-December	1,930	96,100
Total year ³	2,400	115,000
2007:		
January	62	3,800
February	57	2,360
March	180	13,800
April	212	11,800
Total	511	31,800

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

³Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2005	2006	2007 ^{e, 1}
Marketable production	36.2	30.1	28.9
Sold or used by producers:	35.2	30.2	30.7
Yearend stocks	6.8	6.1	5.5
Imports for consumption ^e	2.6	2.4	2.3
Average value per ton	\$40.87	\$48.05	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e, 2, 3}	37.8	32.6	33.0

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹Annualized data.

²Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

³Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.